

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FIRST NAMED INVENTOR : Truc NGUYEN Confirmation No.: 5004
FOR : SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PRINTING
ELECTRONIC FILES
APPLICATION NO. : 10/674,662
FILING DATE : September 30, 2003
EXAMINER : Vu B Hang
ART UNIT : 2625
CUSTOMER NO. : 23380

THIS IS A DECLARATION OF WILLIAM SU PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

I, William Su, hereby declare:

1. I am one of the named inventors of the subject matter of U.S. Patent Application 10/674,662 and, as such, have personal knowledge of its conception and constructive reduction to practice, coupled with diligence from the time of conception.
2. On or before December 2002, we conceived the idea for the subject application.
3. On or before February 11, 2003, we showed an informal sketch of the idea for the subject application to management.
4. On or before March 2003, the first successful testing of the idea was performed.
5. On or before June 26, 2003, we submitted a formal proposal to management in connection with the subject matter forming the subject application. My formal proposal, relevant portions of which are attached hereto as Invention Disclosure Report Titled SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MERGING MULTIPLE DOCUMENTS WITH DIFFERENT PRINT SETTINGS, lists a description of the invention.
6. On or around July 24, 2003, my idea for this invention was approved for patenting by the Document Solutions Engineering Group of Toshiba America Business Solutions.
7. The subject matter of the subject application was then assigned to counsel for preparation and filing on or about July 24, 2003.

8. Shortly thereafter we were contacted by patent counsel by counsel regarding the preparation of a patent application.

9. On September 30, 2003, this application was filed.

10. The forgoing time periods are customary for processing of inventions and submissions for our employer.

11. Therefore, for the reasons set for herein in paragraphs 1-10, our invention was conceived on or before December 2002, coupled with due diligence from February 2003, until the filing date of this application, September 30, 2003.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Executed on 3/20/12 2009 at Irvine, California


William Su

INVENTION DISCLOSURE REPORT

Date received in Legal Dept. 7/1/03Reference No. 66329100003

- (1) Title: **System and method for printing different format documents as one single document**
 I am the Inventor of the titled invention. I have assigned all my right in said invention to TABS.

- (2) Inventor(s)

Truc	Nguyen	USA
William	Su	USA
George	Mylonas	USA

First	M.I.	Last	Citizenship
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Signature of Inventor

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 xxxx

Address

The invention was first explained to and understood by me on _____, 19____

Signature of Witness

_____, 19____
 Date of Signature

- (3) Date of first thought of the invention: Dec 2002 _____

- (4) Date of first sketch or drawing: Feb 2003 _____

model or sample _____

written description _____

- (5) Date invention was first described or shown to others: Feb 2003 _____

- (6) Date device or process first completed and successfully tested: Mar 2003 _____

Test witnessed by: _____

- (7) Documents in which invention is recorded (such as pages of laboratory notebook):
-

- (8) Does TABS plan to use the invention? ☒ X Yes ☐ No
If yes, when: July - Sep 2003 _____
Products: Hawaii _____
- (9) Do you have any possible commercial applications of inventions? If yes, describe:

- (10) Do you plan to perform further work relating to the invention? If yes, describe:
No _____

- (11) Are you aware of any other techniques to solve the same problem, or any companies with similar solutions as that solved by the invention? ☐ Yes ☒ X No
If yes, please explain: _____

- (12) Was the invention made during the performance of any Government contract or agreement with an outside company? ☐ Yes ☒ X No
If yes, please state the company's name and the contract number: _____

- (13) If you have any comments relating to the invention, please explain. _____

- (14) General Description of the Invention. What is the problem to be solved; how does the invention solve the problem; what aspects are new?

Many times we want to print, staple or hole punch multiple separate documents as one single set of document. If we have two documents, the easy method is to print out both documents, then staple and hole punch them manually; however, this method is time consuming if we need more than one copies of this combined document. In this case, we have to print all the copies of the first document, print all the copies of the second document, collate them by hand so that both documents can be stapled and hole punched together.

Another method is merging the separate documents in the application before printing. For example, if we have two MS Word documents, we can copy the entire text or images from the first document and paste them to the second document. Then we can print the combined document as a set. But if we have two different format documents from two different application programs, what can we do? We may have to convert one document from one format to another. The conversion software may not be readily available and the formatting or alignment may not come out correctly in the combined document.

A third option is to scan our documents, then merge these documents and print them. This method is time consuming. The documents often are skewed when they are scanned. Besides, documents may be stored on different platform and machine written in different language. If we have two documents that are stored in different machine, and we want to merge these two documents, number the page, insert tabs and print them, it will not be an easy job.

This invention solves the above problems in a time-efficient manner. It consists of a controller system with storage and software program that allows users to select documents that are merged together in a single document. The system first receives the separate documents and scanned images and stores them in the controller. The documents are then merged together into a new document in the controller. Multiple sets of the merged document can then be printed with staple and hole punch.

(15) Sketch or Drawing of Invention:

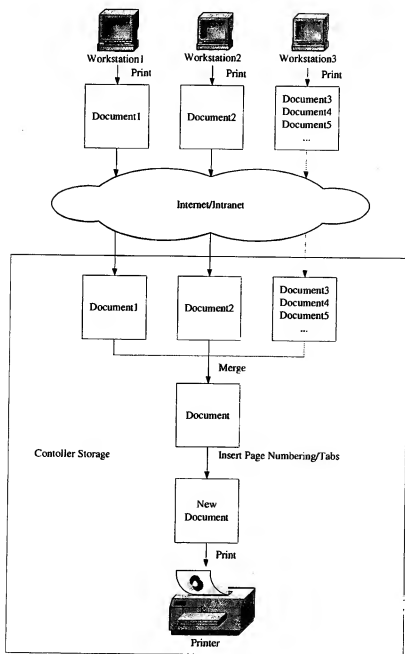


Figure1

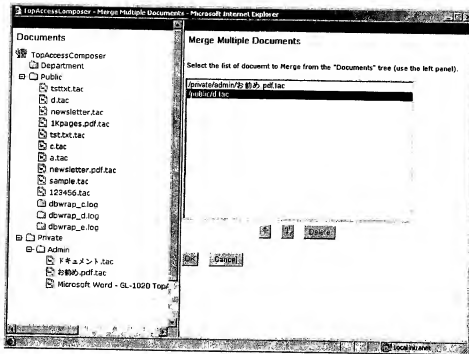


Figure2

- (16) Detailed Description of the Invention: How does the invention work? What are the features that improve on or differ from what is already known? Refer to drawing; attach additional sheets, if necessary.

The client printer driver sends their print jobs into controller storage. Separate documents originating from different applications or machines can be sent to the controller. The controller converts them into bitmap files and stores them in controller storage.

User can use the above UI (Figure2) and select files that he/she wants to merge from any location in controller storage. The UI provides an easy way to merge documents, so it will save a lot of user's time. After clicking "OK" button, the system merges all the selected documents to one single document automatically. The user can then number the pages and/or insert tabs if he/she wants and print the document.

Additionally, integration of the scanning and fax function with system allows the user to easily merge print jobs, scan jobs and fax documents.

- (17) Prior Art: Indicate any patents, articles published in periodicals, books or journals, reports or other documents, as existing devices, especially our own work or work done at TABS related to this invention. Attach copies where available.